

# US Department of Energy Distributed Energy Road Show January 24, 2003

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#### Forward-Looking Statements



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#### **Outline**



- What is a Fuel Cell?
  - Types of Fuel Cells
- What is a Fuel Cell System?

   Fuel Processor

  - Balance of Plant
  - Inverter
- **Technology Adoption**
- **Codes and Standards** 
  - Product Standards
  - Installation Standards
  - Interconnect Standards
  - Challenges
- **System Interfaces**
- **Questions**

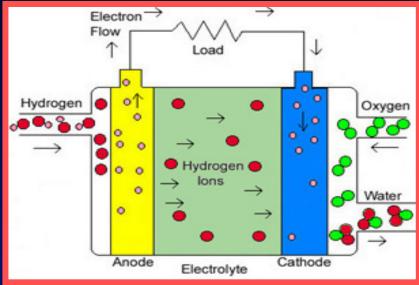


#### **Fuel Cell - Fundamentals**



$$H_2 + O_2 -> H_2O$$

A fuel cell is a device that generates electricity by electrochemically reacting hydrogen and air.



#### Every fuel cell has

One positive electrode - cathode
One negative electrode - anode
An electrolyte - carries charged particles
A catalyst - speeds up the reactions to generate electricity





Fuel Cell Type	Electrolyte	lons	Temperature (°C)	Cell Voltage (V)	Size (largest) (kW)
Alkaline	Potassium Hydroxide	OH-	80	0.6 - 0.8	100
PAFC	Phosphoric Acid	H+	200	0.6 - 0.8	670
MCFC	Molten Carbonate	CO <sub>3</sub> =	550 - 650	0.7 - 0.85	250
SOFC	Solid Doped Zn-Oxide	O=	850 - 1000	0.6 - 0.75	100
PEMFC	Solid Polymer	H+	100	0.6 - 0.8	250

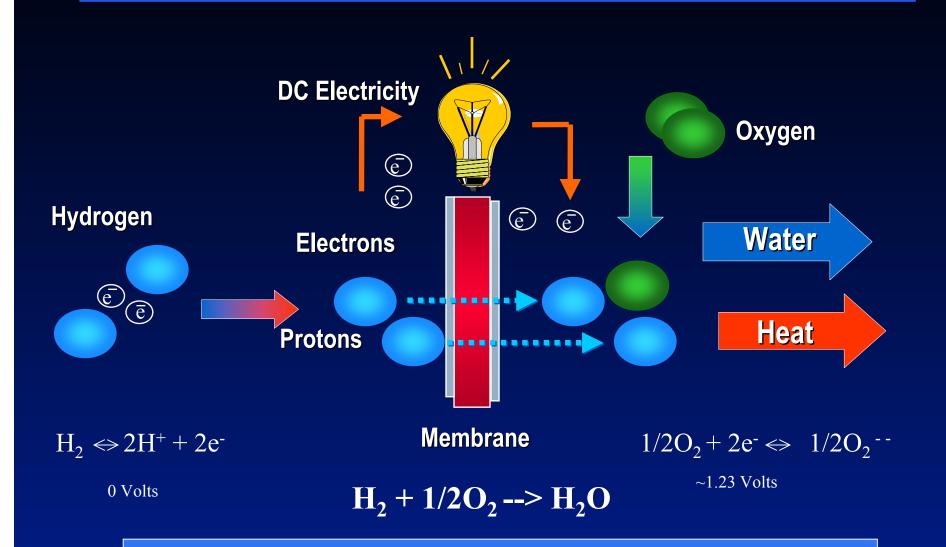
### **Fuel Cell Operating Comparisons**



Fuel Cell Type	Current Density (mA/cm <sup>2</sup> )	System Efficiency	Fuel Proc. Complexity	Stack Power Density	Transient Capability
Alkaline	60 - 120	35 - 50	Medium	Medium	High
PAFC	100 - 400	35 - 45	Medium	Medium	Medium
MCFC	100 - 200	45 - 55	Low	Low	Low
SOFC	100 - 300	45 - 50	Low	Medium	Low
PEMFC	400 - 900	32 - 40	High	High	High

#### **Fuel Cell Process**

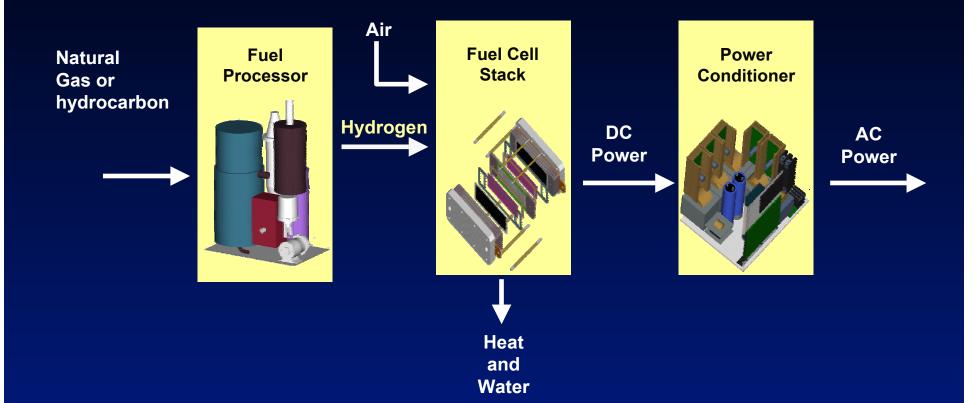




Approx. 1 volt or less/cell, therefore add cells together

#### **System Components**





#### **Integrated System**



Fuel
Air
Water



AC Power Heat

Fuel Processor **Power Generation** 

Inverter

#### **Fuel Processor**

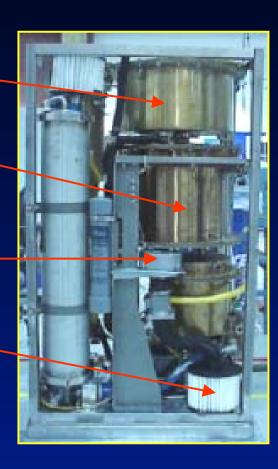


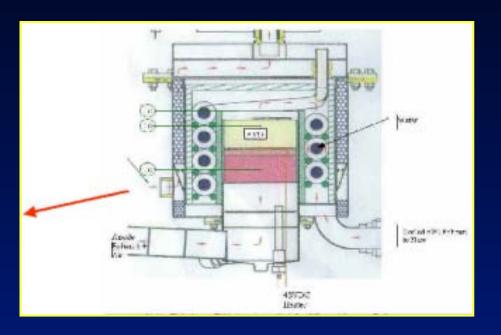
Prox

Main Reactor

ATO Blower

ATO Filter



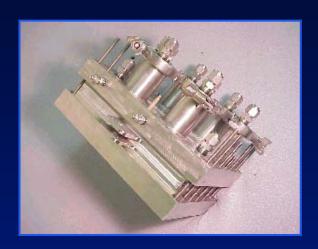


Viewed with Fuel Processing Module Side Panel Removed





Power Generation Module - uses hydrogen in reformate to produce electricity (DC voltage)





# Power Generation & Balance of Plant



- Fuel & Air Delivery
- Cooling
- Waste Heat Capture
- Integrated Controls
  - Fuel Processor
  - Stack/Balance of Plant
  - Inverter/Grid



#### Inverter



- Convert Stack DC power or Battery DC power to AC power
- Provide Auxiliary power
- Provide isolation between the stack and the AC connection
- Provide control system all electrical statistics including stack voltage and current
- Provide Anti-Islanding capability



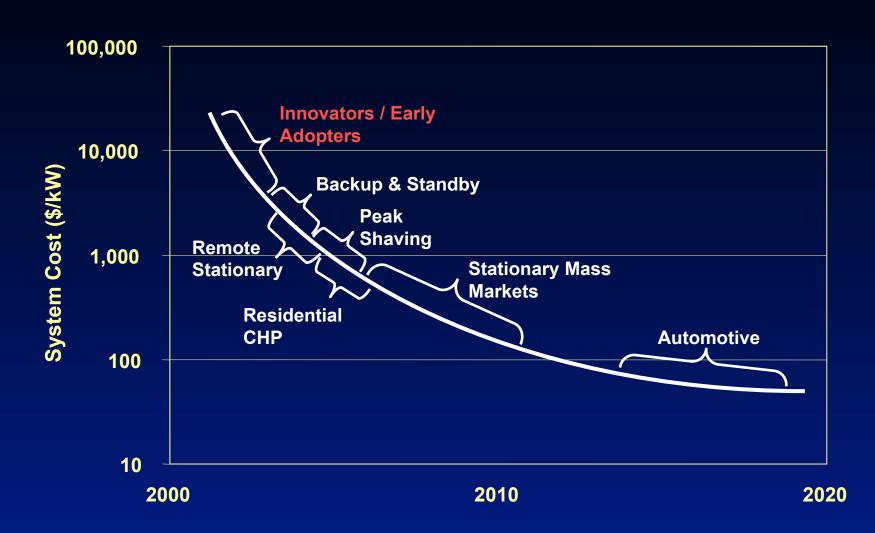




- Fuel Processor
  - Alternate Fuels
  - Energy Storage, Load Following
- Stack
  - Longevity
- Controls
  - Load Following
  - Communications
- Cost



#### **The Future - Industry Cost Curve**



#### The Industry

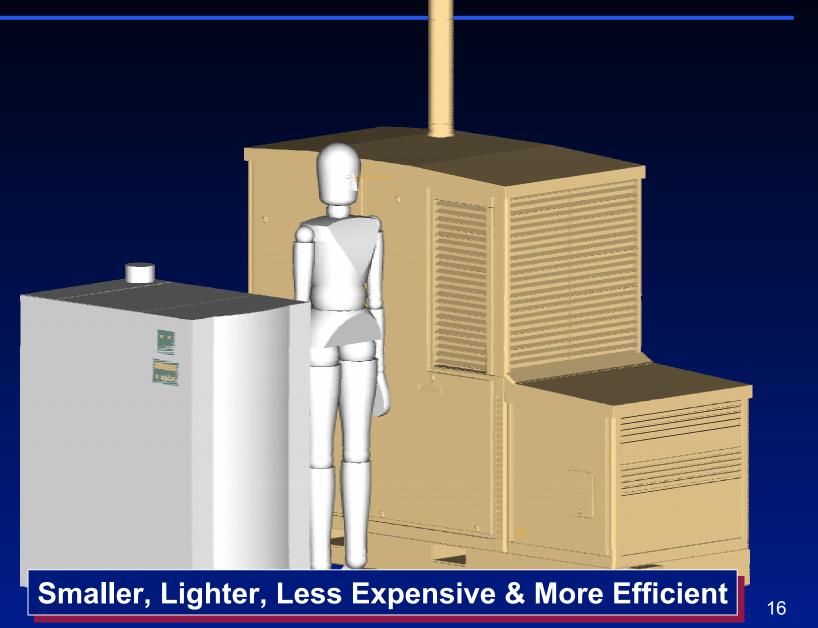


Plug Power Siemens
IdaTech Japan, Inc.
Ballard Etc.
Fuel Cell Energy
UTC

Companies like these are feverishly working to be the first with a commercially viable solution.

#### **The Next Generation**









- ANSI Z21.83 Standard on Fuel Cell Power Plants. Scope includes stationary FCS. Currently addresses natural gas and propane fueled systems.
- ASME Performance Test Code 50 Fuel Cell Power Systems
- UL 1741 UL Standard for Safety for Inverters, Converters, and Controllers for Use in Utility Interactive or Standby Systems
- **Listing and Certification -** For public safety, **i**nstallations should not be allowed without field verification. Product should display compliance symbols.









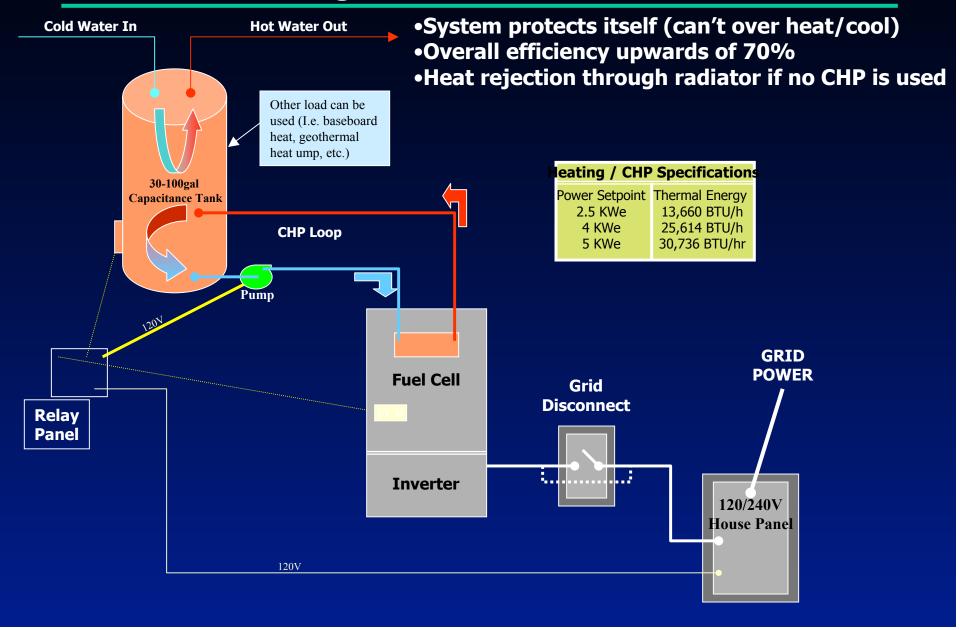


#### **Standards Under Development**

- FERC Federal Standard for Small Generator Interconnection.
- IEEE 1547 Draft Standard for Interconnecting Distributed Resources with Electric Power Systems.
- **ANSI CSA FC 1** This proposed standard will replace Z21.83 and be broadened to include most types of fuels, gas and liquid, hydrocarbons and alcohols.
- IEC TC105 International Fuel Cell Standard

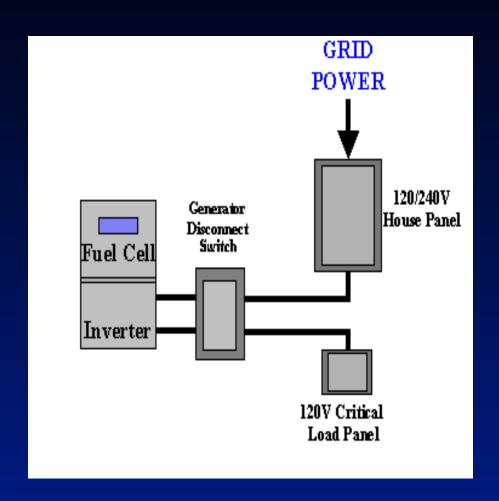


#### **Installation Configuration - CHP**





#### **Installation Configuration - Standby**



- Inverter Technology
  - Output matches grid voltage and frequency
  - Automatic disconnect from grid when abnormal conditions exist
- Standby
  - Critical loads supplied when grid is down
  - Automatic transfer prevents interruption

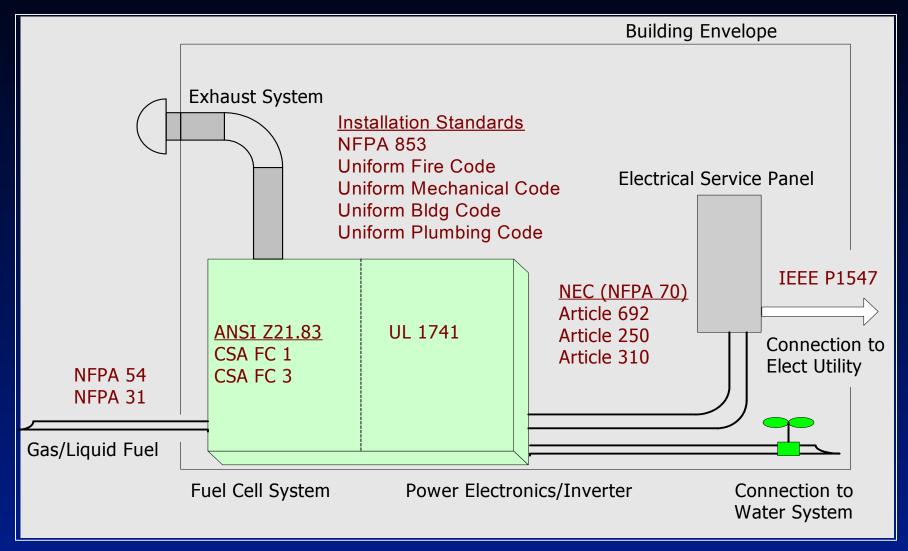
#### **Installation Standards**



- Fire Safety (Fire Marshal) Considerations
  - System Location
    - w/respect to occupied spaces
    - w/respect to windows and entry points
  - Spills and secondary containment
  - Fuel Shutoff Interlocks
- NFPA 31 Installation of Oil-Burning Equipment
- NFPA 54 National Fuel Gas Code
- NFPA 70 National Electrical Code, Article 692
- NFPA 853 Installation of Stationary Fuel Cell Power Plants

### Installation Configuration - Interfaces - Codes and Standards





### aplug paver

#### **Issues & Challenges**

- Regulations
  - Local regulations inconsistent
  - Unfamiliar technology brings subjectiveness
- Permitting/Inspections
  - Building permits
  - Air permits
  - Mechanical and Electrical inspections
  - Fire Marshall
- Interconnection
  - Application standardization
  - Certification process vs. individual site permitting
- Cost
  - Unfamiliar technology drives initial installation costs up
  - Smarter material selection (cost vs. ease of installation)
  - Standardize installations to reduce site specific customization

# **Issues & Challenges - Interconnection Regulations**



- Utility Rules
  - Over 3500 US Utilities
- State Public Utility Commissions
  - California Rule 21
  - New York Standardized Interconnection Rules
  - Texas Substantive Rules Chapter 25, sections 211 & 212
  - Many others in progress
- Pre-Certification
  - Can significantly reduce the cost and time to interconnect with a utility.
  - Requires existing state process
  - Procedure includes UL listing and CSA certification to ANSI Z21.83



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